

## ECONOMIC EXPANSION JAPAN'S SOLE DESIRE

Correspondent Analyzes the Factors Controlling His Nation's Aspirations.

### LACKS RAW MATERIAL

Freedom of Peaceful Activity in Territory Near Home Vital, He Says.

### TERRITORY NOT SOUGHT

Actual and Average Density of Population Compared.

By K. K. KAWAKAMI,  
Correspondent of the Tokyo Jiji Shimpu.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.  
New York Herald Bureau,  
Washington, D. C., Nov. 9.

Thomas A. Edison, in a remarkable interview, discusses the problems of Japan in a big way characteristic of the great inventor. He admits that Japan, deprived of the common freedom of immigration into countries controlled by the Caucasian Powers, must be given breathing space somewhere else, logically in eastern Asia. It is, I think, not militarism which is bringing Japan's national desire for expansion but the economic pressure brought about by overpopulation and lack of land.

"Japan's problem is commercial," Mr. Edison says, "no more political than mine when I need to build an addition to my factory. I am certain that to help Japan get new and large area on which to live would be far cheaper than to build warships with which to fight her."

Mr. Edison suggests that the conference at Washington agree to let Japan buy part of Siberia, giving in payment bonds guaranteed by the Powers.

### Japan's Real Desires.

Mr. Edison's sympathetic interpretation of the Japanese problem no fair minded man will fail to appreciate. It will, however, surprise many to know that few Japanese are enthusiastic about the idea of letting Japan purchase territory in Siberia or anywhere else. For it is not territorial expansion which Japan has been or is seeking. What she is seeking is nothing more than the freedom of peaceful activities in countries which offer opportunities to honest enterprises.

Japan has accepted the inevitable and is for the sake of the peace of the world, reconciled to the fact that Europe and America have erected a barrier against Japanese immigration and enterprises in the countries under their control. She must therefore turn her attention toward the Far East, and seek new fields of activities in the countries on the Asian continent. To attain this end, it is not necessary that Japan should push Asiatic territories under her flag. She would be satisfied if she could secure the unobstructed privilege of working resources, building railroads, promoting trade in those countries whose natural wealth remain undeveloped by the native population. It matters little whether those countries are under Russian or Chinese jurisdiction.

### Unhindered Economic Activity.

If the Powers assume the attitude of the dog in the manger and object even to Japanese acquisition of a few economic privileges on the Asiatic continent, how can we hope to secure their endorsement of a plan to let Japan own outright a section of Siberia or Manchuria? We should be surprised if the Powers would go as far as to recognize Japan's right to unhindered economic activities in those countries. Yet this recognition is absolutely necessary if Japan is to have a breathing space and elbow room.

The actual density of Japan is much greater than the "average" density, because the country consists of volcanic ranges and is traversed by chains of high mountains. According to the investigation of the Japanese Government, mountains occupy 52.86 per cent. of Japan's total land area. The balance consists of 35 per cent. for agricultural land, 8.75 per cent. for residential land, 3.75 per cent. for meadows and pastures. What wonder that Rudyard Kipling, travelling in Japan some years ago, got the impression of density of population of Japan was 2,250 per square mile.

As against Japan's 35 per cent. for agricultural land, Great Britain has 77.20 per cent.; Italy, 75.25; Germany, 68.41; and the United States, 46. The limited area of farm land in Japan has necessitated the most intensive cultivation. In Japan, the average farming land per capita is less than a quarter of an acre, as against 5.5 acres in the United States. The consequence is that the soil of Japan is on verge of exhaustion, and that the stern law of diminishing returns has long since begun to operate in spite of the most painstaking fertilizing process.

### FIFTH AVENUE SHOPS CLOSE ARMISTICE DAY

Subway and 'L' Trains Will Be Halted at Noon.

The first observance of Armistice Day as a legal holiday will be marked by suspension of business of many Fifth Avenue shops and the halting of surface cars and subway and elevated trains for a brief period at noon as a mark of respect. At a meeting of the board of directors of the Fifth Avenue Association in the Uptown Club yesterday afternoon it was decided to advise all members to close their stores for the day. Frank Hodley, president and general manager of the Interborough Rapid Transit, announced that elevated and subway trains will stop for one minute at noon, and Job E. Hedges, receiver for the New York Railways Company, said the surface cars operated by this company would halt for two minutes at noon.

### STEWART'S BODY FOUND.

The body of Julius Bussinger, a steward at the Biltmore Hotel, was found in an arway at 301 East Forty-fourth street yesterday morning after an investigation the police decided that he had met death accidentally. There was a wound on the head, which may have been caused by a fall. None of the tenants knew Bussinger, and it was several hours before he was identified. He lived at 212 East Twenty-fifth street.

## ST. OF MERCHANT SHIPS IN WAR BEFORE CONFERENCE

Need of Regulations to Control Their Activities Emphasized in the Event of Any Reduction in Naval Armament—Where America Is at Disadvantage.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.  
New York Herald Bureau,  
Washington, D. C., Nov. 9.

Merchant shipping will come in for a good share of consideration at the armament conference, due to the fact that it can be used to great military advantage in a war. In the naval councils of the last few days the work done by merchant shipping in a military way in the great war has been gone into with the idea of presenting the possible role of merchant ships in the event of a real reduction of armaments is possible.

The work of the German liner *Koonig Luise* as a mine layer and the work of other passenger liners as cruisers and commerce destroyers has not been forgotten. Of course, the more generally assigned role to merchant ships in war has been that of supplying fleets and armies with men, food and munitions, but it must not be forgotten that armed merchant ships have been, and probably will be, used as actual destructive agencies.

Entirely a new set of international regulations are needed to establish the status of merchant shipping in war. Merchant ships in private commission have been used to transport munitions and men directly to combatants and in doing so, these ships have actually played combatant roles. The legal aspect of this phase is quite serious.

While the actual warship forces will, no doubt, continue to be the backbone of a nation's sea power, in the event of a general reduction the actual control and use of merchant ships will become lanes in all parts of the world—will devolve itself on the merchant vessel. Total disarmament is not believed to be possible by naval authorities. The cause of wars would be to be done away with, but even then armed police forces would be necessary to prevent piracy and preclude small private wars between competing merchants. Generally speaking, however, there is a feeling that a reduction of armaments on some basis is possible and it is in this event that regulations must be ascribed to control the use of merchant craft in war.

A twenty-five knot liner is of tremendous military advantage. Her speed renders her immune from destruction save in an action with the very fastest of modern naval types. Her great size permits the mounting of fairly large guns, the carrying of a large complement and a very large fuel supply, and consequently a large cruising radius.

In addition to these things she will have extra cargo space. In time of war such a vessel can live on the high seas. A vessel is captured which is valuable because she can be used as a raider. The large liner carries extra guns to mount on the captured vessel and men for her complement. Then the captured vessel is sent to sea to prey on commerce under the flag of her captor. The liner then captures a tanker or a collier. The fuel is taken aboard and the captured vessel is sunk.

Every nation in the world is alive to the possibilities of such a war and also to the great economic loss which would go with it. Merchant ships would have to be manned immediately by disciplined crews. Cargo space would have to be turned over to storage space for guns and for magazines. Every year the vessel would have to spend some time at target practice. It is certain that such a condition is far from desirable and unless steps are taken to meet it it will present itself with any reduction in the armament forces.

Then, again, the nation having the greatest merchant marine would be undeniably the greatest naval Power. A conference to regulate the extent of such overseas trade would be thoroughly impossible. The United States would suffer seriously in this respect. It has been possible to keep any number of the vessels of our merchant marine in commission, due to the lack of trade and, possibly, by the retro difficulties. Labor is unquestionably higher in the United States than elsewhere. It would be far more desirable to keep warships in reserve for war purposes than to hold idle merchant ships for the same purpose, because the warship is far better suited to the purpose of destruction.

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## DELEGATES MEET ADVISORY BOARD AT ONCE, THEIR CRY

Continued from First Page.

### Democratic Senators Argue for Example to Nations at Conference.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.  
New York Herald Bureau,  
Washington, D. C., Nov. 9.

Democratic Senators, with the cooperation of a few Republicans, started a new movement to-day for suspension of building on the American naval programme as an example to other nations taking part in the arms conference.

The question may precipitate a sharp parliamentary battle at the Capitol next week unless the Administration decides to take the initiative and order a suspension of building without Congressional action.

Senator Pomerehne (Ohio), a Democratic member of the Foreign Relations Committee, carried the naval building suspension issue to the fore by going to the White House and conferring with President Harding.

The Ohio Senator is the author of a resolution introduced in the Senate on July 7, 1921, authorizing the President, in his discretion, to delay for six months all naval construction, pending the outcome of negotiations for armament reduction. The resolution was referred to the Naval Affairs Committee, where it has remained.

"No Attempt to Embarrass," Senator Pomerehne told the President he had no desire to embarrass the Administration on the eve of the armament conference, but said he thought steps should be taken at once to order work stopped on the construction of American naval vessels. He declined to say what Mr. Harding's attitude was, but it is understood that the President asked time to consider the question.

It is expected that Mr. Harding will confer with Attorney-General Daugherty to ascertain his powers in the matter and also with Secretaries Denby on the advisability of such a step.

If President Harding takes no action, however, within the next three or four days, it is Senator Pomerehne's intention to take the issue before the Senate and force a showdown on his resolution by making a motion to discharge the Naval Affairs Committee from further consideration of the measure.

Following his conference with President Harding Senator Pomerehne conferred with Senator Borah of Idaho, one of the leading advocates of limitation of armament. Senator Borah promised to support Senator Pomerehne in any move to put the resolution to a vote in the Senate.

Belief that the Washington conference on the limitation of armaments and Far Eastern problems will result in cancellation or postponement of payment of the war debts owed to the United States by the Entente nations is expressed by Dr. Friedrich Rosen, formerly Foreign Minister, in an article in the *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*. In this event, he believes, the German reparations terms will be revised.

Otherwise, he declares, he feels that the Germans have nothing to hope from the conference, as the manner in which armament limitation has been applied to Germany instead of being a step toward world peace has only laid the groundwork for future conflicts with her neighbors, who have been seeking by every means possible to secure control of the great German industries.

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## EXPLAINS DEMANDS OF JAPAN ON CHINA

Kato's Statement in Tokio Forebushadows Stand to Be Taken at Arms Parley.

### REFERS TO SACRIFICES

Sought Renewal of Liaoting and Manchuria Railway Leases, Says Party Leader.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.  
New York Herald Bureau,  
Washington, D. C., Nov. 9.

Viscount Takashi Kato, leader of the Japanese Kenseikai, or Opposition Party, has given an authoritative statement in Tokio which was made public here to-night, explaining the presentation of the famous twenty-one demands upon China in 1915 during the progress of the European War. These demands comprise one of the principal controversial questions which must be ironed out by the armament conference.

The statement forebushadows the stand Japan will take at the conference on this important question.

"Although we did not want any Chinese territory to become our possession," Viscount Kato says, "we planted special interests in that part of China. We are very self-denying, but our position in South Manchuria is quite different from the relations of America or any European Power which had never gone through these big sacrifices we had made. It is true we had a lease of the Liaoting Peninsula from Russia, with the consent of China, which had to run for a term of years, and possibly, by the retro difficulties. Labor is unquestionably higher in the United States than elsewhere. It would be far more desirable to keep warships in reserve for war purposes than to hold idle merchant ships for the same purpose, because the warship is far better suited to the purpose of destruction.

We wanted to lengthen the period of the Liaoting lease and that of the railway concessions. The railway was practically destroyed when we got it from Russia and we spent large sums of money in repairing it and in improving its service.

"In regard to Eastern Inner Mongolia, that region is adjacent to Manchuria, and the line of demarcation is not very definite. Therefore, to preserve our place in South Manchuria it was necessary to include a certain portion of Mongolia in our sphere of influence."

The objects of our demands in those matters was to have the period of the lease and the charter to the railroad extended in time to enable our countrymen to engage in lawful business in South Manchuria and Eastern Inner Mongolia, and to enable them to enjoy the right of land ownership in those parts of China."

"ARMS LIMIT PARLEY  
INSPIRED BY GOD"

Last Words of Murdered Premier to Japan's Delegates.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9 (Associated Press).—During an impressive memorial service which was held to-day at the Japanese Embassy for Premier Hara, who was assassinated last Friday in Tokio, Senosuke Yokota, who particularly represents the Japanese Cabinet, revealed that on the eve of the sailing of the armament conference delegation from Japan Mr. Hara expressed the conviction that President Harding in calling the conference was the instrument of God.

"President Harding has been inspired by God to do this," said the Premier, "and it behooves mankind which is represented at this conference to accomplish things for the high and lasting benefit of humanity. If the men who go to Washington from the various countries do not succeed I firmly believe that it is because human nature has not yet attained the stage of perfection which God expects of it. If the conference fails I believe it means that mankind must further suffer."

Homage to the slain Prime Minister was also paid by Baron Shidehara, the Ambassador, and Admiral Baron Kato, one of the chief delegates to the armament conference. With bowed heads all spoke reverent words dwelling upon the loss to the empire of the leader who had devoted all his efforts to the prosperity of his people and had prepared the policy of conciliation and accommodation which Japan has announced as her attitude for the conference.

Only Japanese attended the ceremony, which closes the period of official mourning. Henceforth, in view of the importance of their mission to Washington, the delegates will feel free to attend official functions.

DR. ROSEN BELIEVES U. S. MAY CANCEL WAR DEBTS  
Otherwise He Sees Little Hope From Arms Parley.

BERLIN, Nov. 9 (Associated Press).—Belief that the Washington conference on the limitation of armaments and Far Eastern problems will result in cancellation or postponement of payment of the war debts owed to the United States by the Entente nations is expressed by Dr. Friedrich Rosen, formerly Foreign Minister, in an article in the *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*. In this event, he believes, the German reparations terms will be revised.

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## BALFOUR AND PARTY PASS ON TO CAPITAL

Former Premier of England Remains in Seclusion at Jersey City.

### RACE OUT OF STORM

Distinguished British Visitors Not Formally Welcomed in New York.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.  
New York Herald Bureau,  
Washington, D. C., Nov. 9.

A special train with three glittering cars crowned by a thin layer of discolored snow backed into the huge, empty, dimly lighted old Pennsylvania Railroad Terminal at Jersey City last night shortly before 9 o'clock. On board were Arthur J. Balfour, former Premier of Great Britain and chief of the British delegation to the arms conference, and his party.

The coming of Mr. Balfour, who was travelling from Montreal to Washington, where he will arrive this morning, was in strange contrast with that of Marshal Foch, Admiral Beattie and many other distinguished visitors who have recently come here. Six Jersey City policemen, several railroad detectives, a few trainmen and half a dozen newspaper men and photographers were on hand to see the statesman, but Mr. Balfour did not leave the train.

Sir Arthur Willert, an English journalist now connected with the Foreign Office, a member of the party, explained that his chief had not known he would come so near New York as the other side of the river, and was preparing to retire. He therefore at this time had no statement to make, Sir Arthur said, but would issue one to-day on his arrival in Washington.

The Balfour party reached Quebec on the Canadian Pacific liner *Empress of India*. From there it went to Montreal and yesterday morning at 8:30 left for Washington, via New York. At Rouse's Point, on the border, Col. C. B. Mitchell of the U. S. Army and Charles Bannerman, an agent of the State Department, met the train in the midst of a snowstorm. The train raced out of the storm just before reaching Saratoga.

In the Balfour party, which consists of twenty-three members, were General Lord Cavan, military adviser to the British delegation, who formerly commanded the British army in Italy; Vice Air Marshal Higgins, and Sir Maurice Hankey. At three this morning the special train pulled out for Washington.

FLASHING INTO BRILLIANCE TO-MORROW night, the most elaborate illumination system ever set up in Washington will bathe the city in light in honor of the delegates to the arms conference.

A jeweled archway eighty-five feet high forms the approach to the building in which the conference will meet. Roman lamps have been set up to make almost as light as day four blocks of Seventeenth street leading to the arch. In the background the biggest searchlights of the Army and Navy will play on the Washington Monument, the White House the dome of the Capitol and other public buildings.

To emphasize the whole display millions of electric bulbs of all colors have been arranged to produce the effect of the aurora borealis between the Capitol and the Congressional Library. This feature of the system will be visible for miles, according to electrical engineers who have been working weeks to get the illuminating system in shape.

The entire display of light will be equivalent to 4,950,000,000 candle power, according to W. A. A. Ryan, illuminating engineer of the General Electric Company, who devised the system with the assistance of the Army and Navy electrical engineers.

Although the ordinary cost of making the display would be \$250,000,000, the actual cost will be only \$30,000 because a large part of the equipment used was donated by the military and naval branches.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9 (Associated Press).—During an impressive memorial service which was held to-day at the Japanese Embassy for Premier Hara, who was assassinated last Friday in Tokio, Senosuke Yokota, who particularly represents the Japanese Cabinet, revealed that on the eve of the sailing of the armament conference delegation from Japan Mr. Hara expressed the conviction that President Harding in calling the conference was the instrument of God.

"President Harding has been inspired by God to do this," said the Premier, "and it behooves mankind which is represented at this conference to accomplish things for the high and lasting benefit of humanity. If the men who go to Washington from the various countries do not succeed I firmly believe that it is because human nature has not yet attained the stage of perfection which God expects of it. If the conference fails I believe it means that mankind must further suffer."

Homage to the slain Prime Minister was also paid by Baron Shidehara, the Ambassador, and Admiral Baron Kato, one of the chief delegates to the armament conference. With bowed heads all spoke reverent words dwelling upon the loss to the empire of the leader who had devoted all his efforts to the prosperity of his people and had prepared the policy of conciliation and accommodation which Japan has announced as her attitude for the conference.

Only Japanese attended the ceremony, which closes the period of official mourning. Henceforth, in view of the importance of their mission to